

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8844

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 2195

DEPT FOR EUR/EE - JAMES GLENN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OGEN, XH, CGEN, US
SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESENCE IN EASTERN EUROPE

REF: STATE 81289

1. FOLLOWING IS IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS POSED REFTTEL ABOUT
U.S. PRESENCE IN ROMANIA.

2. AMERICANS RESIDENT IN ROMANIA OR STAYING ON LONG-TERM
BASIS:

-- OFFICIAL AMERICANS: BUCHAREST EMBASSY STAFF AND
DEPENDENTS CURRENTLY NUMBER 102.
-- BUSINESSMEN: PERMANENT AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY,
INCLUDING DEPENDENTS AND STAFF OF AMERICAN SCHOOL OF BUCHA-
REST WHO ARE NOT DEPENDENTS OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL, CURRENTLY
NUMBER ABOUT 19. AN AMERICAN FIRM HAS PLANS UNDER WAY TO
BRING 30 AMERICAN FAMILIES TO ROMANIA IN 1978.
-- PENSIONERS: EMBASSY DISTRIBUTES BENEFITS TO 75 SOCIAL
SECURITY OR VA PENSIONERS RESIDENT HERE.
-- STUDENTS: THERE ARE CURRENTLY 85 AMERICAN MEDICAL
STUDENTS IN ROMANIA; 31 FULBRIGHT GRANTEES, AND AN
ESTIMATED 20 U.S. DIRECT EXCHANGE (IREX) GRANTEES COME
EACH YEAR. TOTAL: 136

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-- DUAL NATIONALS: WE ARE IN POSITION TO ISSUE U.S.
PASSPORTS TO 127 DUAL NATIONALS, MOST OF WHOM HAVE BEEN
RESIDEING IN ROMANIA FOR 50-60 YEARS. BECAUSE ROMANIA
DOES NOT RECOGNIZE DUAL NATIONALITY, DUAL NATIONALS RE-
QUIRE ROMANIAN EXIT DOCUMENTATION TO LEAVE.

3. TEMPORARY VISITORS:

-- TOURISTS: APPROXIMATELY 28,000 AMERICANS VISITED ROMANIA IN 1977, DOWN FROM 35,000 IN 1976. WE ATTRIBUTE DECLINE TO MARCH 1977 EARTHQUAKE AND SUBSTANDARD FACILITIES FOR TOURISTS.

-- SEAMEN/AIRCREW: PANAM OPERATES ABOUT 100 FLIGHTS YEARLY INTO AND OUT OF BUCHAREUK, ACCOUNTING FOR 600-650 VISITS BY U.S. AIRCREW. PERMANENT REPRESENTATION IS TWO AMERICANS (ACCOUNTED UNDER BUSINESS COMMUNITY). ESTIMATED 200-250 U.S. SEAMEN VISIT ROMANIA YEARLY.

-- JOURNALISTS: AVERAGE OF 10 U.S. JOURNALISTS MAKE ABOUT 15 ANNUAL VISITS TO ROMANIA. HOWEVER, THIS IS IN NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, DISREGARDING HIGH-LEVEL STATE VISITS OR OTHER MAJOR EVENTS. PRESIDENT FORD'S 1975 VISIT, FOR EXAMPLE, BROUGHT ESTIMATED 50 U.S. JOURNALISTS TO ROMANIA.

-- BUSINESS VISITORS: ESTIMATED 400 REPRESENTATIVES OF AMERICAN FIRMS AND U.S. BUSINESSMEN VISIT ANNUALLY. REPRESENTATIVES OF MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS ARE OFTEN NON-AMERICAN CITIZENS, BUT SERVE AS EUROPEAN REPRESENTATIVES OF U.S.-BASED FIRMS.

-- OFFICIAL VISITORS: THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 225 ANNUALLY, INCLUDING OFFICIALS FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES, CONGRESSMEN AND STAFFERS, 20 SPEAKERS FUNDED BY ICA, AND AVERAGE OF ABOUT 50 AMERICANS WHO COME FOR CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS. VISIT OF LARGE CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS GROUP (SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA) WOULD ALTER TOTAL. IN ADDITION TO TOTAL ARE APPROXIMATELY 36 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VISITS BY USAF AIRCREW FOR SUPPORT FLIGHTS FROM FRANKFURT, OF WHICH THERE ARE CURRENTLY SIX PER YEAR, AND 300-500 CREW MEMBERS OF U.S. NAVY SHIP WHICH VISITS CONSTANTA ANNUALLY.

SIMONS

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